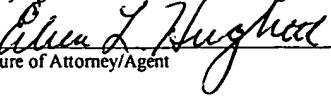


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on

February 27, 2002

Eileen L. Huggett 34,352
Attorney/Agent Name Reg. No.

Signature of Attorney/Agent

3735

7/6
DR
RECEIVED
FEB 28 2002
Case CM-1519Q

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
In the Application of :
Olaf Erik Alexander Isele, et al. :
Serial No.: 09/446,550 : Group Art Unit: 3735
Filed: December 22, 1999 : Examiner: C. L. Anderson
For: DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLES WITH CLOTHLIKE FEEL BACKSHEET
HAVING ZONED BREATHABILITY AND PROCESS FOR MAKING SUCH
BACKSHEETS

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
DATED DECEMBER 1, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 1, 2001, Applicants hereby submit the following Response.

INTRODUCTION

Applicants' Agent wishes to thank the Examiner for examining the above-identified Application. Claims 1-20 are pending in the Application, Claims 1-14 have been rejected. Claims 1-20 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

This response fully addresses each and every issue raised in the Office Action dated December 1, 2001. A detailed discussion of each issue is provided in the sections which follow.